

BAR HARBOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES-REGULAR MEETING
MAY 12, 2008

ITEM 1
CALL TO ORDER

Present were Weber, Donnelly, Haskel, Handel, Albert and Wheeler. Anne K., John Kelly, Peter Lord

ITEM 2
EXCUSED ABSENCES

There were no absences

ITEM 3
ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

The minutes were accepted with the ammendments- (140 composter orders- mostly from MDI, not Bar Harbor. Spelling of "award- d, not cld"

ITEM 4
ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as presented.

ITEM 5
OLD BUSINESS

A. Composter wrap up- Enoch reported that, with Carla and Loreen's help, he distributed 35 composters. Vicki, at Salsbury Farms, will handle the rest. Enoch asked the newspapers to write a reminder for people to pick up their composters. He figures that with 140 composters-at approximately 500 pounds of material per unit, per family, per year- the composters remove 33,000 pounds per year from the town's waste stream. Perhaps we should offer this every other year with Southwest Harbor offering theirs alternate years.

The Council asked us to look into recycling more, including restaurant composting. What is the obstruction- restaurant's storage space, the Hulls Cove site? Anne K. will bring the issue up. Enoch offered to look into the composting issues. He will consult Ann Boher. Anne K. will ask Howdy if he knows of farmers who would like restaurant compost. We will keep this on the agenda- Old Business, until we have a plan.

B. Review of Shep Harris' proposals at Planning Board workshop- Anne K. is preparing a recommendation for possible changes to the PUD in response to Shep's development proposal. It will offer a couple of options in relation to affordability. There was much discussion on the best use of the PUD model for Shep's development. Is the "Great American Neighborhood" an appropriate modal to use for Bar Harbor? It encourages developers to create more "towns" in rural areas. A motion was made by Carla, the motion was seconded and all were in favor.

---To request a participatory public workshop on possible changes to the PUD----

C. Cool Cities-Carla and Anne W. will meet to discuss a proposal to the Council that the town make the Cool Cities pledge. They will research the project and report at

our next meeting. It is important that it makes “real” change.

D. Dark Skies review ordinance- Mary Ann reported on the revised Dark Skies Ordinance, which Peter drafted and Mary Ann revised She walked us through the ordinance. This proposal will go to the Planning Board, then Design Review, then to the Council. Mary Ann asked the commission to review it and get to her with comments by Wednesday afternoon. She suggested we prepare a brochure about good lighting practices and publish informational article with illustrations in the newspapers. ANP has funding to prepare a brochure- it could be used island wide- web friendly. Mt. Desert and Surry have passed ordinances.

E. Northeast Creek Brochure- If the budget is approved, Con Com will have money to print the brochure. Downeast Audobon will contribute money if we make their suggested changes. ANP will give Jodi time to revise the pamphlet. Jill will ask MCHT and FOA if they'd like to help fund it.

ITEM 6 NEW BUSINESS

A. MEACC- Mary Ann and Anne W. reported on the MCHT Conference. They learned about the great benefits of Conservation Commissions and land trusts working together to protect natural resources. We would like to develop a closer relationship with MCHT and ANP, our 2 local conservation easement holders.

B. Staff Reports- Jill will call Tim to see if he's interested in serving on the Conservation Commission.

ITEM 7 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Keep Composting on the agenda
- Keep Dark Skies on the agenda- finalize document
- Cool Cities
- Planning August speaker

ITEM 8 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm